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Interactive comment on “Changes in soil quality due to converting *Pinus* to *Eucalyptus* plantations and subsequent successive *Eucalyptus* planting in southern China” by K. Zhang et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

Received and published: 5 October 2014

Review on:

“Changes in soil quality due to converting *Pinus* to *Eucalyptus* plantations and subsequent successive *Eucalyptus* planting in southern China”

Authors: K. Zhang, H. Zheng, F. L. Chen, Z. Y. Ouyang, Y. Wang, Y. F. Wu, J. Lan, M. Fu, and X. W. Xiang

This study addresses an important topic – assessing the effects of land use change on soil quality and properties. I agree with the author’s statement that this topic hasn’t been studied sufficiently. The authors examined the effects of converting *Pinus* to *Eucalyptus* plantations and a five-year rotation of *Eucalyptus* planting, on

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the bio-chemical properties and quality of the soil. They evaluated these effects by comparing five sites comprising: (a) the original Pinus, (b) Eucalyptus that replaced the original Pinus (1st generation), (c) a second generation of Eucalyptus after clearing the 1st one, (d) 3rd generation, and (e) 4th generation, assuming that these sites represent different stages in time. The paper is concise and well written, but some parts were unclear to me and some information was missing. I have several comments that should be addressed in major revisions (please see in the attached file).

Please also note the supplement to this comment:

<http://www.solid-earth-discuss.net/6/C1083/2014/sed-6-C1083-2014-supplement.pdf>

Interactive comment on Solid Earth Discuss., 6, 2779, 2014.

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